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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,729	11/21/2003	Stephen Daniel Gherardini	CMA0456	3534
7590	05/21/2004		EXAMINER HYEON, HAE M	
Leon D. Rosen Freilich, Hornbaker & Rosen Suite 1220 10960 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	
DATE MAILED: 05/21/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/719,729	Applicant(s) GHERARDINI, STEPHEN DANIEL	
	Examiner Hae M Hyeon	Art Unit 2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character “74” has been used to designate both guide pins and pin-receiving bores. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claim 3 recites, “a pair of rod-receiving holes.” It is not clear which element is the rod since the

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present specification does not describe the rod. Also, it is not clear which holes are the rod-receiving holes since the instant invention includes many holes.

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-5 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements are: the motherboard in the midplane of the housing that connects two daughter boards and the housing.

- Claims 1-5 and 9-10 only recite the daughter boards, but not the motherboard placed in the midplane. According to the present specification, the motherboard includes guide pins for aligning the connector assemblies on the daughter boards in order for the connector assemblies to mate properly.
- Claims 9 and 10 recite that the first and second connectors are slideably mounted and the first and second daughter boards are slide inward toward each other. From the present specification, it is clear that the daughter boards are being placed in a housing of a fiber optic connector system. However, the claims do not define where the daughter boards are being inserted by sliding. Furthermore, claim 9 recites that the daughter boards are latched, but claim 9 does not recite to what that the daughter boards are being latched. Claim 1, also, does not clearly recite to what that the daughter boards are being latched.

7. Claim 6 recites the limitation "said ferrule tips" in line 20 and "said connector ferrules" in line 27. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris et al (6,582,133 B2) in view of Meis et al (6,390,690 B1).

Harris discloses a fiber optic connector system comprising a housing (not shown) having opposite first and second end portions and a midplane 110 lying between the end portions, first and second daughter boards 122 and 125, and first and second connector assemblies 116 and 118 mounted respectively on the first and second daughter boards 122 and 125. However, the connectors of Harris do not show at least one terminus having terminus tip and a mounting bracket fixed to the corresponding daughter board.

Meis discloses a fiber optic connector system comprising a daughter board 16 having a mounting bracket 56 and a terminus 12 of a connector 20 slideably mounted on the mounting bracket 56 allowing a longitudinal movement of the connector 20. When the connector 20 is mated with a mating connector 30, a terminus tip of the terminus 12 abuts with a terminus tip of the mating connector's terminus 14.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the connector taught by Harris such that it would have a mounting bracket that allows longitudinally slideable movement of the connector as taught by

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Meis because the longitudinal movement of the connector maintains low optical loss in the connection.

Regarding to the latching of the daughter board, it is common knowledge that the latching is one of the well-known method to secure an object in place.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 5,091,991 by Briggs et al., US Patent No. 5,581,645 by Gehri, US Patent No. 6,305,848 B1 by Gregory, US Patent No. 6,398,423 B1 by Novacoski et al., and US Patent No. 6,554,486 B1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hae M Hyeon whose AU is 2839 and whose telephone number is 571-272-2093. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D Feild can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the telephone number 571-272-2800 ext 39.

Any response to this action may be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, *see Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office*, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003).

Hae M Hyeon

Examiner

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hnh

hnh

Hae Moon Hyeon